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INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL

Letter dated 30 January 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation to Control Illicit Production, Traffic and Abuse of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and Their Precursors, signed on 4 May 1996 in Tashkent by the Governments of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 104.

(Signed) Alisher VOHIDOV
Permanent Representative of
Uzbekistan to the United Nations

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ANNEX

Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation to Control Illicit Production, Traffic and Abuse of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and Their Precursors

The Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Government of Turkmenistan and the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan (hereinafter referred to as "the Governments") and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (hereinafter referred to as "the Programme"),

Expressing concern at the scale and continuing growth of the illicit production of, demand for and traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances throughout the world, and also at the possibility of using the territories of the Central Asian States for the unlawful transit of narcotic drugs and precursors,

Disturbed by the growth in the use of narcotic drugs, particularly among young people,

Recognizing the serious threat posed by illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances to people's health and well-being, and its negative impact on the economic, cultural and moral foundations of society,

Acknowledging that illicit trafficking complicates the crime situation and is an international criminal activity the suppression of which requires coordinated efforts within the framework of international cooperation,

Bearing in mind the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,

Considering their common will to effectively combat illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The Governments reaffirm their commitment to fulfil the obligations they assumed with respect to national and international policy to control drug-trafficking through ratification and implementation of the provisions of the United Nations conventions on drug control of 1961, 1971 and 1988, and with respect to the establishment of inter-State coordinating bodies.

Article 2

The Governments shall take measures to carry out coordinated actions to develop a subregional programme for cooperation in the field of drug control in the following priority areas:

- Creation of a mechanism for coordinating cooperation at the political and operational levels;

- Harmonization of legislation to control drug-trafficking;

- Organization of national data-analysis centres and facilitation of the exchange of data and up-to-date information at the subregional level;

- Determination of the level of illicit demand for drugs, and exchange of experience in developing programmes for the effective prevention and cure of drug addiction;

- Implementation of joint actions to prevent the illicit import, export and transit of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors;

- Joint training of specialists;

- Organization and coordination of systems to control narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances used for legitimate purposes, as well as precursors, in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations conventions on drug control of 1961, 1971 and 1988.

Article 3

The Governments, bearing in mind each State's means and interests, shall provide political, financial and technical support for joint programmes on a shared basis.

Article 4

With a view to strengthening cooperation in carrying out joint activities, the Programme shall, when necessary, extend appropriate support by providing expert and technical assistance.

Article 5

The strategies, programmes and subregional projects developed in accordance with this Memorandum shall be subject to approval by the Governments and the Programme.

Article 6

1. The Governments shall hold annual meetings with the participation of plenipotentiaries of the Governments and the Programme with a view to summarizing the results of their joint actions and determining new (additional forms of activity.

2. Each Government shall serve in turn as host of the annual meeting.

3. With the consent of the Governments and the Programme, representative of other States or international organizations may participate in the meetings.

Article 7

By agreement between the Governments and the Programme, this Memorandum ma be supplemented in order to broaden the kinds of joint actions to control traffic in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors.

Article 8

Other States or international organizations may accede to this Memorandum by notifying the Programme of their intention to do so. The Programme shall, within one month, inform all the Governments that signed the Memorandum of such intention.

Decisions with respect to accession shall be taken at the annual meeting b unanimous approval of the Governments and the Programme, and shall enter into force on the date of their adoption.

Article 9

1. Each Government may denounce this Memorandum by submitting written notice to the Programme, which shall so inform all Governments parties to this Memorandum.

2. If one of the Governments denounces this Memorandum, the Memorandum shall cease to have effect for that Government following the expiry of six months from the date on which notice of denunciation was sent.

3. If this Memorandum ceases to have effect for one or all Governments, its provisions shall remain in force with respect to joint programmes begun prior to the date on which the denunciation of this Memorandum took effect.

Article 10

1. This Memorandum shall enter into force on the date of its signature.

2. This Memorandum is drawn up in six copies, each in the Russian and English languages, both texts being equally authentic.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, duly authorized representatives of their Governments, have signed this Memorandum.

DONE at Tashkent on 4 May 1996.

For the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan:

[Illegible]

For the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic:

[Illegible]

For the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan:

[Illegible]

For the Government of Turkmenistan:

[Illegible]

For the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan:

[Illegible]

For the United Nations International Drug Control Programme:

[Illegible]